



# Tennessee News Release

Tennessee Field Office · PO Box 41505 · Nashville, TN 37204 · (615) 781-5300 · [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)  
In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

## Tennessee Cattle Inventory Down 1 Percent

**NASHVILLE, January 27, 2012** - The total number of cattle and calves in Tennessee on January 1, 2012, was 1.97 million head, 1 percent below last year’s inventory level. This information is based on a recent cattle survey conducted by USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service, Tennessee Field Office. Debra Kenerson, State Director, remarked, “During the year Tennessee farmers suffered from statewide storms, including tornadoes the last week of April, resulting in flooding, power outages and livestock losses.” Results of the survey showed the following breakout of inventory on January 1, 2012, with comparison to last year: beef cows totaled 950,000, down 4 percent; milk cow numbers were 50,000, no change from the previous year; calves less than 500 pounds were 460,000, down 4 percent; and steers and other heifers weighing 500 pounds and over, at 260,000 head, up 24 percent. Tennessee’s 2011 calf crop was 920,000 head, down 3 percent.

## United States Cattle Inventory Down 2 Percent

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2012 totaled 90.8 million head, 2 percent below the 92.7 million on January 1, 2011. This is the lowest January 1 inventory of all cattle and calves since the 88.1 million on hand in 1952. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 39.1 million, were down 2 percent from the 40.0 million on January 1, 2011. Beef cows, at 29.9 million, were down 3 percent from January 1, 2011. Milk cows, at 9.2 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2011. Other class estimates on January 1, 2012 and the change from January 1, 2011, are as follows: All heifers 500 pounds and over, 19.4 million, down 1 percent; Beef replacement heifers, 5.2 million, up 1 percent; Milk replacement heifers, 4.5 million, down 1 percent; Other heifers, 9.6 million, down 2 percent; Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.1 million, down 2 percent; Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.1 million, down 5 percent; Calves under 500 pounds, 14.1 million, down 3 percent; Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 14.1 million, up 1 percent. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots was 25.7 million, down 4 percent. The 2011 calf crop was estimated at 35.3 million head, down 1 percent from 2010. This is the smallest calf crop since the 34.9 million born during 1950. Calves born during the first half of 2011 are estimated at 25.7 million, down 1 percent from 2010.

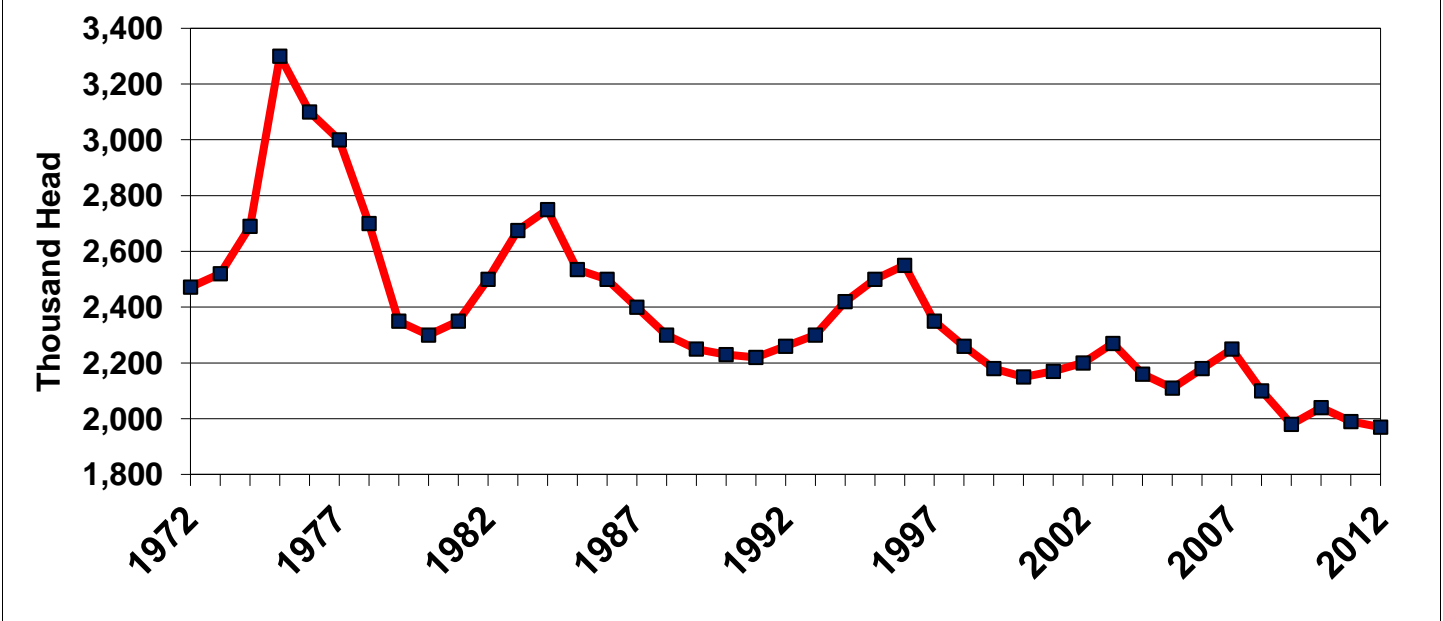
Cattle and Calves: Number by Class, Tennessee and U.S., January 1, 2011-2012

Class	Tennessee			United States <sup>1</sup>		
	2011	2012	2012/2011	2011	2012	2012/2011
	Thousand Head		Percent	Thousand Head		Percent
All Cattle and Calves	1,990	1,970	99	92,682	90,769	98
All Cows that Have Calved	1,040	1,000	96	39,999	39,112	98
Beef	990	950	96	30,850	29,883	97
Milk	50	50	100	9,150	9,230	101
Heifers, 500 pounds and over	265	280	106	19,576	19,388	99
Beef Cow Replacement	150	150	100	5,139	5,212	101
Milk Cow Replacement	35	30	86	4,568	4,527	99
Other	80	100	125	9,869	9,649	98
Steers, 500 pounds and over	130	160	123	16,397	16,072	98
Bulls, 500 pounds and over	75	70	93	2,155	2,052	95
Calves, under 500 pounds	480	460	96	14,555	14,145	97
Calf Crop <sup>2</sup>	950	920	97	35,695	35,313	99
Cattle on Feed	10	9	90	14,013	14,121	101

<sup>1</sup> May not add due to rounding. <sup>2</sup> Calves born during previous 12 months.

(OVER)

### Tennessee Cattle Inventory, January 1, 1972 - 2012



### Tennessee Goat Inventory Grows; Sheep Inventory Unchanged

The total number of meat goats in Tennessee on January 1, 2012, was 121,000 head, up 6,000 head from 2011. Milk goats totaled 9,000 head, an increase of 1,500 head from the previous year. The total number of sheep and lambs in the State on January 1, 2012, remained unchanged from a year ago at 35,000 total head for 2012. Breeding inventory is 28,000 head, 1,000 less than year; while market inventory increased to 7,000 head, 1,000 more than last year. Tennessee’s lamb crop decreased 1,000 from last year to 26,000 head.

Sheep & Lambs, Meat &Other Goats: Number by Class, Tennessee and U.S., January 1, 2011-2012						
Class	Tennessee			United States <sup>1</sup>		
	2011	2012	2012/2011	2011	2012	2012/2011
	Thousand Head		Percent	Thousand Head		Percent
All Sheep and Lambs	35.0	35.0	100	5,480	5,345	98
Breeding, Sheep and Lambs	29.0	28.0	97	4,080	3,975	97
Ewes, One Yr. & Older	22.0	21.0	95	3,255	3,155	97
Rams, One Yr. & Older	2.0	2.0	100	190	170	89
Replacement Lambs	5.0	5.0	100	665	650	98
Total Market	6.0	7.0	117	1,400	1,370	98
Market Lambs	5.7	6.5	114	1,320	1,286	97
Market Sheep	0.3	0.5	167	80	84	105
Lamb Crop <sup>2</sup>	27.0	26.0	96	3,570	3,510	98
All Milk Goats and Kids	7.5	9.0	120	360	360	100
All Meat/Other Goats and Kids	115.0	121.0	105	2,464	2,356	96
Breeding, Meat & Other				2,011	1,921	96
--Does, One Yr & Older				1,489	1,440	97
--Bucks, One Yr & Older				153	148	97
--Replacement Kids				369	333	90
Kid Crop, <sup>2</sup> Meat & Other				1,566	1,531	98

<sup>1</sup> May not add due to rounding. <sup>2</sup> Lambs and kids born during previous 12 months.

### U.S. Sheep and Lamb, Goat and Kid Inventory Down

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2012, totaled 5.35 million head, down 2 percent from 2011. The 2011 lamb crop of 3.51 million head, was down 2 percent from 2010. The 2011 lambing rate was 109 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2011, an increase of 2 percent from 2010. Meat and all other goats totaled 2.36 million head on January 1, 2012, down 4 percent from 2011. Milk goat inventory was 360 thousand head, unchanged from January 1, 2011, while Angora goats were down 15 percent, totaling 146 thousand head.